

SUMMARY OF PHASE I OF THE GREATER WYTHE AREA PLAN

Residents of the Greater Wythe Area began meeting in October 1997 to develop their vision for a better community. Once the vision was clearly understood, the Planning Team identified those issues they believed most affected them from achieving their vision. Following issue identification the Planning Team presented the issues to the community at their first Community Checkpoint meeting at Wythe Elementary School in June 1998. With community input, the Planning Team analyzed the issues in more detail and began developing strategies to deal with the issues. These strategies were presented to the community at a second Community Checkpoint meeting at Bassette Elementary School in June 1999. In the autumn, 1999 the Planning Team presented their work to the Hampton Planning Commission and City Council. The Greater Wythe Area Plan, Phase I (GWAP, Phase I) is the result of these discussions and represents a significant amount of community participation, supported by a variety of City resources. Copies of the Plan are available at the entranceway where you entered the cafetorium. Copies are also available at the Public Library, the Kenny Wallace Neighborhood Resource Center and on the Internet: <http://www.hampton.va.us/wythe/>

Due to the large area (Greater Wythe Area includes nearly all of Neighborhood District Nine) and population (12,000 people) with a variety of socio-economic backgrounds, the Greater Wythe Area Planning Team produced a large number of issues. In general, the issues dealt with in Phase I are viewed as issues requiring near-term solutions. The GWAP, Phase I includes public safety, land use, and congregate living facilities issues and recommendations and consists of the following:

- Public safety — the perception of the Greater Wythe Area as a higher crime area than other neighborhoods; the perception of unsafe schools; and speeding and cut-through traffic in residential areas.
- Land use — housing values have not kept pace with the rest of the City; the Kecoughtan Road commercial corridor has a negative impact on the surrounding neighborhoods and adds to the perceived negative image of the area; and a proposal for a village center.
- Congregate Living Facilities—additional definitions; three tiered structure to identifying congregate living facilities; and geographical restrictions on the number of uses in any particular area.
- The Planning Team is also participating in the development of a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club, Hart-McAlister and AmeriCorps whereby the Boys & Girls Club will assume ownership of the Hart-McAlister facility, which will be renovated with the assistance of the AmeriCorps program.

**Specifics to Each of These Areas Can Be Found in the
Greater Wythe Area Plan, Phase I**

